



Department of Energy

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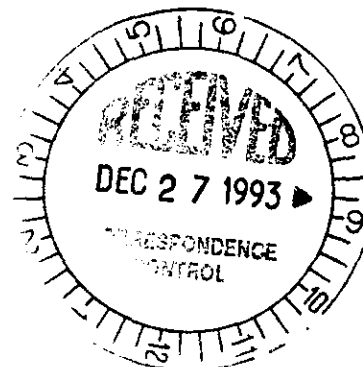
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DEC 14 1993

94-RPA-044

Mr. David C. Nylander, Manager
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
Hanford Project Office
7601 West Clearwater Avenue, Suite 102
Kennewick, Washington 99336



Dear Mr. Nylander:

TRANSFER OF WASTE FROM TANK F18 TO TANK F16 AT THE PLUTONIUM-URANIUM EXTRACTION FACILITY

In a telephone conversation with Ms. Laura Russell of your staff, personnel from Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC) identified an unusual waste transfer and unusual conditions at the Plutonium-Uranium Extraction Facility (PUREX) that were created (in part) due to the administrative hold on Tank Farms activities. This situation was discussed in a letter from Mr. R. G. Holt, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL), to Mr. D. C. Nylander, State of Washington Department of Ecology, "Transfer of Waste from Tank F18 to Tank F16 at the Plutonium-Uranium Extraction Facility," dated September 27, 1993. Ms. Russell responded with a letter to Mr. J. D. Wagoner, RL, and Mr. T. M. Anderson, WHC, same subject, dated October 18, 1993.

Because PUREX was unable to transfer waste to Tank Farms, waste was transferred from Tank F18, a permitted storage/treatment tank, into Tank F16, a tank permitted for treatment. A portion of the waste was transferred in order to create room in Tank F18 to allow accumulated water in the G-Cell sump to be removed. An additional complicating factor was that the high concentration of uranium in the waste in Tank F18 made it necessary to transfer and store a portion of the waste in Tank F16 to allow dilution prior to transferring the waste to Tank Farms.

Transfer of waste from Tank F16 and Tank F18 to Tank Farms was initiated on October 22, 1993. A total of six transfers were required to remove the waste from Tank F16. The final transfer from Tank F16 was completed on November 15, 1993, prior to the December 15, 1993 date specified in Ms. Russell's letter. The last transfer of waste from Tank F16 to Tank F18 consisted of emptying Tank F16, rinsing Tank F16 with about 1,200 gallons of water, and sending all of the rinse solution to Tank F18.

With the removal of waste from Tank F16 completed, RL considers this action closed.



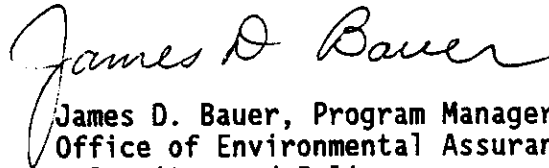
Mr. David C. Nylander
94-RPA-044

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Should you have any questions regarding this transmittal, please call me or Mr. Alex Teimouri of my staff, on 376-6222.

Sincerely,



James D. Bauer, Program Manager
Office of Environmental Assurance,
Permits, and Policy

cc: B. G. Erlandson, WHC
E. M. Greager, WHC
G. J. LeBaron, WHC
M. Jaraysi, Ecology
L. Russell, Ecology

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Author J. D. Bauer, RL (M. J. Stephenson, WHC) Addressee Mr David C. Nylander, Ecology Correspondence No. Incoming: 9307731 (Xref: 9360269D)

Subject: TRANSFER OF WASTE FROM TANK F18 TO TANK F16 AT THE PLUTONIUM-URANIUM EXTRACTION FACILITY

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